

Clatsop County Recreation Lands Planning Advisory Committee
MINUTES
Thursday, May 28, 2009

Members Present: Michael Clark, Kim Kines, Gail Galen, Michael Hinton, and Zack Bolitho. New member Lynn Hacklin arrived later in the meeting.

Others Present: Linda Dygert, Steve Meshke, Ed Wegner, Nicole Williams, Duane Cole (County Manager), David Sacamano (HDR), and Sara Hoeber (HDR)

Chair Galen called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm and asked for introductions around the table.

Minutes of March 26, 2009 Meeting:

It was decided that a committee of members who were at the last meeting (Hinton, Galen, Eady, Kines) would need to determine approval of the March 26, 2009 meeting minutes.

Introduction of New Members:

Chair Galen asked the new members – Michael Clark and Zack Bolitho – to say a few words about themselves. Michael Clark said he has lived in Clatsop County since 1987. He said he is the sales manager at KAST radio, an independent AFLAC agent, captain of the Sheriff's posse and works at Youngs Bay Detention Center as needed. He has also been involved with Cub and Boy Scouts since 1984. Zack Bolitho is the Chief of Resources at Fort Clatsop and came to the area in March, 2009. He said he has served for eleven years in the National Park Service working at Gettysburg, Idaho, and Virginia where he was involved with trail development and community outreach programs. Chair Galen welcomed the new members.

Report on ODOT Tree Removal:

Ed Wegner and Nicole Williams updated the committee on the situation with ODOT cutting away hazardous trees on Highway 26 in road right-of-ways. They said that two old trees in David Douglas park which were not in the right-of-way were removed. ODOT said that the trees were rotted. The trees have been taken to the Olney Mill where they will be salvaged for lumber. The wood will then be stored at the Public Works shops where they can be sold for a minimum amount of about \$16,000. Money generated will go to the Parks fund. Michael Hinton asked if this could happen again and who is supervising ODOT. Nicole Williams said there is an on-going investigation into the situation. Hinton said that perhaps the lumber could be used for park structures. Wegner said that cutting is occurring on Highway 30 as well as Highway 26 in road right-of-ways. He said that park right-of-ways will be marked in order to avoid this happening again. Williams said that the Department of Forestry will be meeting with ODOT to discuss the situation further. County Manager Duane Cole said that the county is not taking the situation lightly and will advise ODOT that procedures should be in place to address concerns so that this cannot happen again. Meshke said that the damage is not very obvious visually. Chair Galen asked if there is redress beyond the value of the timber and Cole said that a lawsuit could be filed but that would cost money and in the end, the trees are still down.

Project Update from “Sign and Design” Consultants:

David Sacamano and Sara Hoeber from HDR presented the results of the April 30, 2009 meeting. Sacamano said that HDR has been working on the project since March and has done an assessment, developed families of elements, and reviewed signage, shelters, and furnishings concepts. He said the goal is to establish a consistent, high quality, and recognizable identity for Clatsop County parks and recreational lands. He said a survey of the committee showed a preference for contemporary and utilitarian designs. Hoeber showed the committee a picture of a Kaypark stationary bench which would use locally available standard dimensional lumber and only the rails would be ordered. Also presented was a backless option. She showed samples of different materials, i.e. Douglas fir, recycled plastic ‘timbers’, and galvanized and powder coated products. She said a basic shelter (24’ x 44’) would cost approximately \$32,000 uninstalled and would have to be installed by a contractor. Galen asked about skylights to add warmth and light and Meshke said that might be possible. Products from the Classic Recreation Systems Company were shown and although their products are more durable, they are more expensive. Hoeber said they are still working on trash can options. Kines asked about aggregate containers. It was noted that Oregon Corrections Enterprises builds informational kiosks which could include a readerboard area. There was some discussion about water fountains and whether or not they need to be provided.

Sign options were discussed, i.e. information, directional, and park entrance signs. Hoeber said that the county logo will be worked into the design. Galen asked if aluminum or laminate works better and Meshke said that aluminum can be etched and that laminate can be produced in bulk. Sacamano said that using Cullaby Lake as an example, where would the sign be located, i.e. decision point or gate itself or use a smaller version at one point? Meshke will discuss with Public Works. There was discussion about gates, i.e. Cullaby and Big Creek.

Font concepts were presented and what should be included on signs was discussed, i.e. Clatsop County, park name, etc. Other sign elements to be determined are: where park name and logo will be placed, should there be a county park number, will there be brochures at kiosks, etc. HDR will provide concept designs.

Sacamano said that HDR will provide the following: final standards development, final design guidelines document, complete design elements matrix with product specification information, and park entry sign plan layouts and installation information with final document delivery by July 1, 2009. Meshke showed markers produced by ‘Rock Art’ which can show trails, rules, etc. HDR will check out the product. HDR will discuss details of a final meeting with Steve Meshke.

Parks Report:

Steve Meshke reported that the Parks budget was approved as submitted with no cuts. He said that the State Marine Board asked for \$9,000 on the dock replacement project which the county will pick up. He said that the State Marine Board will meet to review projects next month.

He said there was a Pacificia tree planting project at Cullaby Lake which was referenced in the newspaper. There is also a Boy Scout project scheduled for Klotchy this coming weekend. He said that the next step for the Stewardship Plan is on-site surveys. Galen said that the workshop day which included site visits was very useful.

Meshke said that summer crowds are starting to arrive. He said new septic fields are needed at John Day and there is no room there for a septic system for a camp host site. Galen asked if there are figures on the sale of passes and Meshke said they are fine. Bolitho said national parks are doing ok as well. Meshke said there is a new contractor for bait sales which will generate \$800 in revenue. Galen asked if fees should be raised and Meshke suggested no change.

Orientation and Information Discussion for New Members:

New member Lynn Hacklin arrived and was introduced. Chair Galen distributed copies of the by-laws and master plan to the new members. She explained that the Recreational Lands Planning Advisory Committee assists the Clatsop County Board of Commissioners with long-term planning for parks. She said that the RLPAC has no legal authority but can make recommendations, i.e. closing a park that might have issues. She said that contracts are on-going with stewardship and signage. Galen explained that RLPAC meets every other month with sub-committee meetings in between. She said that the next meeting will be the last Thursday in July. She will send out the previous list of goals to be discussed at that meeting and then new sub-committees will be assigned.

Meshke asked the members to look at the Oregon State trail plan. He will provide copies and said it might be possible to adopt the plan as a standard. Galen said one of the sub-committees may focus on trails. Meshke noted that it is not feasible to have a trail at Big Creek because of swampy ground but there could be one on the other side of the road.

Next meeting: The next RLPAC meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 30, 2009. As there was no further business, Chair Galen adjourned the meeting 1:55 p.m.

Approved by:

_____ Date Minutes Accepted by Committee _____
Chair Signature